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STATEMENT TO THE LEGISLATURE

BY

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AND
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ON

THE SERVICE SECTOR REPORT

DECEMBER 15, 1986

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AS PART OF THIS GOVERNMENT'S CONTINUING EFFORTS TO KEEP ONTARIO'S ECONOMY ON THE LEADING EDGE OF COMPETITIVENESS IN A CHANGING GLOBAL ENVIRONMENT, I AM PLEASED TO TABLE TODAY THE FINAL REPORT OF A MAJOR STUDY OF THE SERVICE SECTOR IN THIS PROVINCE.

THIS SPECIAL STUDY WAS CARRIED OUT UNDER THE DIRECTION OF GEORGE RADWANSKI, WHO WAS APPOINTED BY THE GOVERNMENT IN OCTOBER, 1985, TO EXAMINE THE ROLE OF THE SERVICE SECTOR IN ONTARIO'S ECONOMY AND TO IDENTIFY OPPORTUNITIES TO FURTHER STRENGTHEN THE CONTRIBUTION OF THIS IMPORTANT SECTOR TO THE CREATION OF WEALTH AND EMPLOYMENT FOR ONTARIANS.

THE SERVICE SECTOR NOW ACCOUNTS FOR 73 PER CENT OF EMPLOYMENT AND 70 PER CENT OF GROSS DOMESTIC PRODUCT IN ONTARIO, AND IT IS EXPECTED TO PROVIDE SOME 80 PER CENT OF ALL NEW JOBS OVER THE NEXT DECADE.

THE WIDE-RANGING REPORT I AM TABLING TODAY ANALYZES THE ROLES OF EDUCATION, ENTREPRENEURSHIP, SOCIAL POLICY AND EXPORT INITIATIVES IN A STRATEGY TO MAXIMIZE GROWTH OPPORTUNITIES IN AN ECONOMY WHERE KNOWLEDGE-INTENSIVE SERVICES PLAY SUCH AN IMPORTANT ROLE. IT ALSO ASSESSES THE LIKELY IMPLICATIONS THAT A CANADA-U.S. FREE TRADE DEAL WOULD HAVE FOR THE SERVICE SECTOR, AND IT LOOKS AT SOME INITIATIVES FOR SPECIFIC INDUSTRIES. THE GOVERNMENT WILL BE GIVING SERIOUS CONSIDERATION TO THE REPORT'S RECOMMENDATIONS IN THESE VARIOUS AREAS.

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As part of this Government's continuing efforts to foster
growth and employment on the Atlantic coast, the Government is
conducting a special study of the economic development of the
Atlantic coast as a major step in the process of economic
development.

This special study was initiated and under the direction
of George Barnard, who was appointed to the position of
Director, Atlantic Coast Development, in the month of
October, 1952. The study was conducted by the
Atlantic Coast Development Committee, which was
established to coordinate the activities of the
various departments and agencies of the Government
concerned with the development of the Atlantic coast.

The special study was conducted by the Atlantic Coast
Development Committee, which was appointed by the
Government and is expected to complete its work by the
end of the year.

The wide-ranging report of the Atlantic Coast
Development Committee, which was submitted to the
Government in a series of reports, contains a number of
important recommendations for the development of the
Atlantic coast. These recommendations are based on a
thorough study of the economic conditions of the
Atlantic coast and on a comparison of the conditions
of the Atlantic coast with those of other parts of
the world. The recommendations are of a general
nature and are intended to guide the Government
in its policy-making.